

Senate Bill No. 272

Passed the Senate September 5, 2007

Secretary of the Senate

Passed the Assembly August 30, 2007

Chief Clerk of the Assembly

This bill was received by the Governor this _____ day
of _____, 2007, at _____ o'clock ____M.

Private Secretary of the Governor

CHAPTER _____

An act to add Section 66025.8 to the Education Code, relating to postsecondary education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 272, Runner. Public postsecondary education: Armed Forces service.

(1) Existing law requires each segment of public higher education to establish, and update as necessary, a written policy concerning students who are called to active military service, as specified. Existing law grants to qualifying members of the National Guard, the State Military Reserve, and the Naval Militia an entitlement to academic leave when active duty, as defined, interrupts college attendance for the purpose of pursuing an undergraduate degree.

This bill would require the California State University and each community college district, and request the University of California, with respect to each campus in their respective jurisdictions that administers a priority enrollment system, to grant priority for registration for enrollment to any member or former member of the Armed Forces of the United States for any academic term attended at one of these institutions within 2 years of leaving active duty, including, but not necessarily limited to, any student of those institutions who is called to active military duty compelling the student to take an academic leave of absence.

Insofar as the bill would impose costs on the California Community Colleges in evaluating an individual's eligibility for priority in enrollment, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(2) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 66025.8 is added to the Education Code, to read:

66025.8. The California State University and each community college district shall, and the University of California is requested to, with respect to each campus in their respective jurisdictions that administers a priority enrollment system, grant priority in that system for registration for enrollment to any member or former member of the Armed Forces of the United States for any academic term attended at one of these institutions within two years of leaving active duty. As used in this section, “member or former member of the Armed Forces of the United States” includes, but is not necessarily limited to, any student who is called to active military duty compelling that student to take an academic leave of absence.

SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

Approved _____, 2007

Governor